



Clayton South
Tahara
Wagin/Williams Precision Sheep Group

GGA Annual Forum Presentation

Background

- Farm 4127Ha (own two thirds, lease one third)
- 30km NE of Wagin
- 65-70% crop
- 6000-7000 breeding ewes
1500-2000 ewe hgts
- 2 Full time labour units
- Seasonal driver (Airseeder & header)
- Sheep system made to fit around the cropping system. Still valuable for our business.

Cropping Program

- Home farm 80-90% cropped every year.
3yr rotation. 2 Cereals, 1 Break
- Lease farms – Cropping restrictions
Cereals Only. YIYO, 2I1O, 2I2O
- 80% Cereals (40% Wheat, 40% Barley)
- 10-15% Canola
- 5-10% Lupins (all kept for feed)

Sheep System

- Self replacing Dohne Merino Flock
- 4000 mated to Dohnes
- 2000 – 3000 mated to White Suffolks
- July Lambing
- XB & Wth Lbs sold as stores (Sep,Oct)
- 100% production focused
- All about yield. Lbs/WGHa, Wool/Ha

Production Focus

- Preg Scanning. First \$ I'd spend
- Multiples ID'd & separated, dry's culled
- Twins separated into small mobs 60-180.
Refenced pdks to accommodate
- 30 day Joining – selection pressure
- Wet & Dry at marking, dry's culled
- Foetal Ageing - Ease of management
- Reduces tail
- Rams selected on figures first.



Twin Paddocks

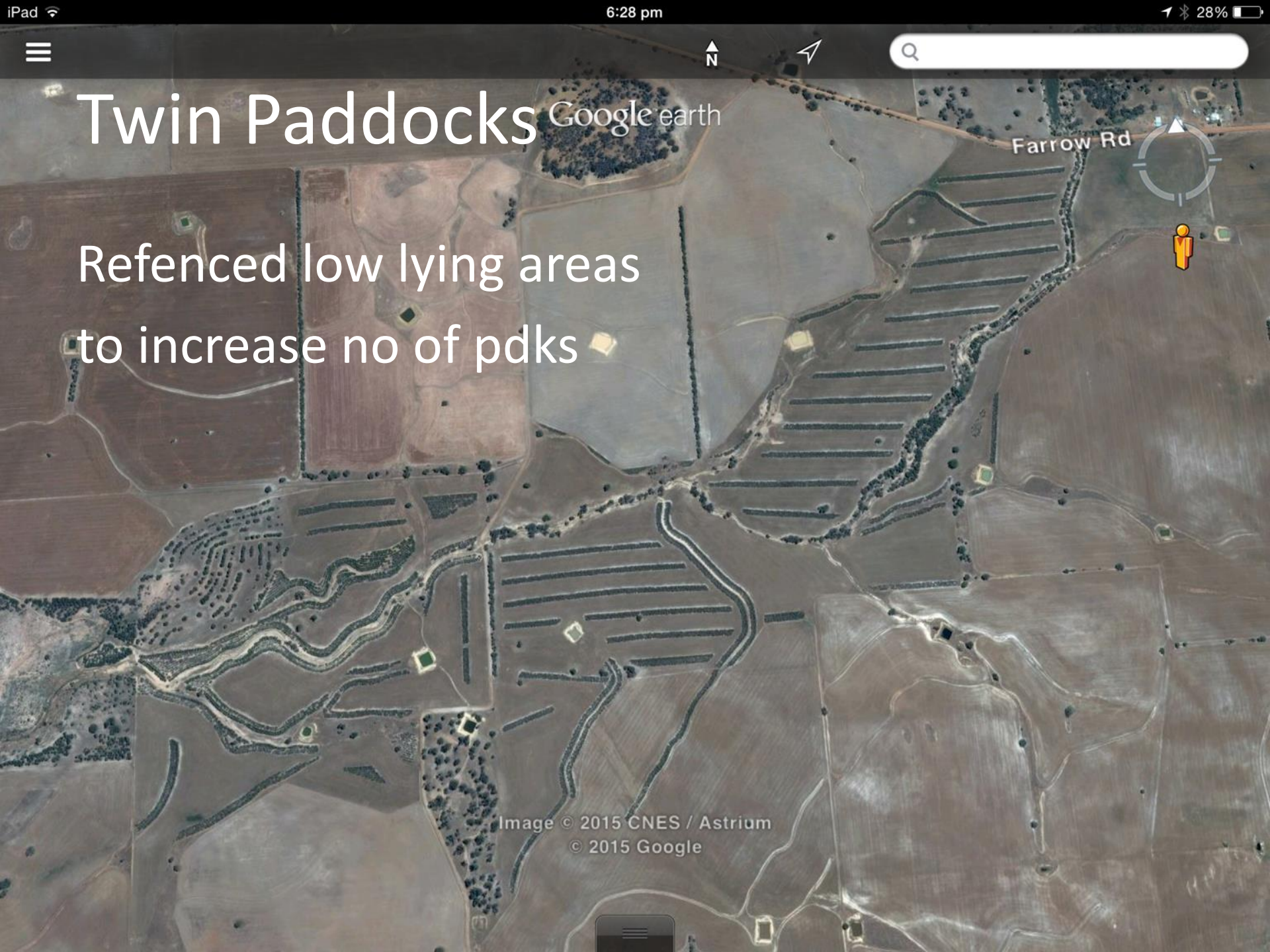
Google earth

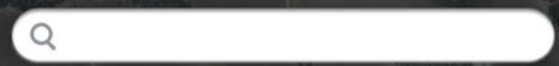
Farrow Rd



Refenced low lying areas
to increase no of pdks

Image © 2015 CNES / Astrium
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Refenced bush, trees & rocks for use as twin pdk's

Google earth



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Wagin/Williams Precision Sheep Group

- Supported by Making More from Sheep
- Co-Ordinated by Anthony Shepherd of Sheepmatters. Sheep consultant specialising in EID.
- Cost is \$900 +GST per business
- 8-9 Producers, varied goals & stages of implementation of EID.
- Meet every 2-3 months over 12 months
- Technical support & guidance over that period
- Also discuss differing sheep systems, current issues & a general sharing of ideas.

Why be involved?

- Completed Sheeps Back Program
- Two years of Local LTEM Group – since expanded into ongoing East Wagin Sheep Group
- Recommended by consultant
- Logical next step - EID
- Realising it's very complex to implement
- Opportunity to work with like minded producers

Benefits to my business

- Using micron discs to ID Twins each year
- EID a logical progression
- Purchased a sheep handler with EID capabilities
- Endless possibilities
 - Life Data – Constants
 - Production Data - Yearly
 - Health Records – Traceability
- Data collection & processing
- Help us ID our best performing animals
- Also identify freeloaders
- Increase production & therefore \$\$\$

Te Pari Racewell Sheep Handler

